

Appl. No. : 10/687,523  
Filed : October 15, 2003

#### **AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

**Please replace paragraph [0011] on page 5 of the Specification as filed with the following paragraph:**

ClCKb is a member of the ClC family of chloride channels and participates in the renal re-absorption of NaCl; cf. Waldegger S. and Jentsch T. J. (2000), J Am Soc Nephrol 11, 1331-1339. The functional expression of ClCKa as another member of the ClC family, and of ClCKb channels, requires the co-expression of barttin, which thus is an essential  $\beta$  subunit of these channels; cf. Estevez R. et al. (2001), Nature 414, 558-561. The functional significance of both, ClCKb and barttin is illustrated by rare monogenic disorders. The entire nucleotide and amino acid sequence (SEQ ID NO: 1) of human ClCKb is disclosed in GenBank ~~Genebank~~ NCBI, Accession number NM\_000085.

**Please incorporate the Sequence Listing submitted herewith as a part of the Specification.**